

REMARKS

This is in full and timely response to the Office Action mailed October 6, 2003 (Paper No. 20) and to the Advisory Action mailed January 14, 2004 (Paper No. 01082004), submitted concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), supplemental to the Amendment filed December 8, 2003 (now entered), and a Petition for Extension of Time to within the first extended month. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested. Reexamination and reconsideration in light of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claim 2 was amended to be consistent with claim 8. No new matter was added.

Claims 2-8 are pending in this application, with claims 2-3 and 8 pending for the Examiner's reconsideration, with claims 4 and 8 being independent. Reexamination and reconsideration in light of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Docket No.: OKA-0019
(85424-0019)

Application No.: 09/748,188

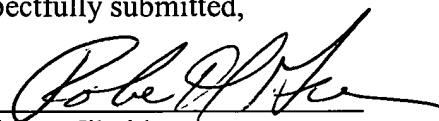
Conclusion

Claims 2-3 and 8 are allowable, and the present application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reexamination and reconsideration of the application in light of these amendments and remarks is courteously solicited. If the examiner has any comments or suggestions that would place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number below.

Dated: February 6, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By



David T. Nikaido

Registration No.: 22,663

Robert S. Green

Registration No.: 41,800

RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC

The Lion Building

1233 20th Street, N.W., Suite 501

Washington, DC 20036

(202) 955-3750

Attorneys for Applicant

Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper, or if a petition for extension of time is required for timely acceptance of same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 180013 for any such fees; and applicant(s) hereby petition for any needed extension of time.